

San Mateo County Investment Policy Excerpt

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SAN MATEO COUNTY
Investment Policy Statement
Calendar Year 2023

I. Introduction

It is the policy of the San Mateo County Treasurer, consistent with controlling legal mandates, to invest public funds in a manner which will provide maximum security of principal invested with secondary emphasis on providing adequate liquidity to pool participants, achieving a competitive yield while conforming to all applicable statutes and resolutions governing the investment of public funds. Moreover, while complying with these legal mandates, the Treasurer will also promote investments in authorized issuers that display adherence to strong environmental, social, and governance principles.

To meet liquidity and long-term investing needs, the County has established the County Investment Pool. This fund is suitable for planned expenditures or capital funds.

II. Delegation of Authority

By Resolution 079414, approved on January 17, 2023 the County Board of Supervisors has delegated to the Treasurer authority to invest and reinvest the funds of the County and other depositors as specified in California Government Code Sections §27000.1 and §53607 for the period calendar year 2023. The Treasurer may delegate investment authority to whoever has been retained to perform the investment function.

III. Policy Statement

This Investment Policy establishes cash management and investment guidelines for the Treasurer, and those to whom he/she delegates investment authority, who are responsible for the stewardship of the San Mateo County Pooled Investment Fund. Each transaction and the entire portfolio must comply with California Government Code and this Policy. All portfolio activities will be monitored and judged by the standards of this Policy and its investment objectives. Activities that violate its spirit and intent will be considered contrary to policy.

The Treasurer will annually render to the Board of Supervisors and any Oversight Committee a statement of investment policy, which the Board shall review and approve at a public meeting. Any change in the policy shall also be reviewed and approved by the Board at a public meeting.

IV. Standard of Care

The Treasurer is a fiduciary of the pooled investment fund and therefore subject to the prudent investor standard. The Treasurer, employees involved in the investment process and members of the San Mateo County Treasury Oversight Committee shall refrain from all personal business activities that could conflict with the management of the investment program.

B. Liquidity

The Treasurer's Office attempts to match maturities with its 12-month projected cash flow. The nature of the planning process behind the cash flow of the pool is relatively predictable and less volatile than is the case of discretionary money.

This allows leeway for some of the underlying investments in the County Pool to maintain a somewhat longer duration.

C. Yield

The County Pool is designed as an income fund to maximize the return on investable funds over various market cycles, consistent with the pool's first priority of safeguarding principal. Yield will be considered only after the basic requirements of safety and liquidity have been met. The County Pool is managed as an income fund whose purpose is to provide its investors with a reasonably predictable level of income, as opposed to a growth fund or fund measured on the basis of total return.

D. Socially Responsible Investment Objectives

In addition to and while complying with California Government Code provisions that regulate the investment of public funds (which require that, when managing and investing public funds, the objectives shall be, primarily, to safeguard principal of invested funds; secondarily, to meet the liquidity needs of the local government; and third, to achieve a return on invested funds), the County Treasurer recognizes the importance of socially responsible investing. The Treasurer will consider and promote investment in authorized issuers that display adherence to strong environmental, social and governance (ESG) principles, including but not limited to, environmental sustainability, social and economic justice, and good corporate governance. The Treasurer will forego investments in fossil fuel issuers if able to do so while complying with all legal and fiduciary mandates, including with respect to safety of principal, liquidity, and return on invested funds. The Treasurer will seek to invest in a socially responsible manner by considering investments in corporate issuers that meet designated risk score thresholds, as provided by an independent organization or organizations that supply analytical research, ratings, and data to institutional investors regarding issuers' environmental, social and governance (ESG) practices. Issuers will be reviewed and confirmed against these thresholds on a periodic basis, and any investments in issuers that fall below designated thresholds may be sold or held to maturity.

VI. Management Style and Strategy

This policy describes the County's strategic investment objective, risk tolerance and investment constraints. The County Treasurer or designee, at the Treasurer's discretion, prepares an economic outlook and evaluates the capital markets environment. The investment

as a comparative fund to the County's pool. The maximum percent of the fund that can be invested is up to the current State limit.

M. Mutual Funds

Shares of beneficial interest issued by diversified management companies as defined in Government Code Section § 53601. Purchases of Mutual Funds will not exceed 20% of the pool, 10% per mutual fund.

N. Local Government Investment Pools (LGIPs)

Shares of beneficial interest issued by a joint power's authority organized pursuant to Section 6509.7 that invests in the securities and obligations authorized by the Government Code. Each share shall represent an equal proportional interest in the underlying pool of securities owned by the joint powers authority. Purchases are limited to LGIPs that seek to maintain a stable share price and will not exceed 20% of the pool, 10% per LGIP.

VIII. Security Lending

Security Lending is a temporary exchange of portfolio assets for acceptable collateral between a lender and an approved borrower. The additional income generated from this transaction can be used to enhance portfolio performance. This process can be summarized in three key steps:

- A.** The Security Lending agent lends securities from our portfolio to an approved borrower at a negotiated rate. The negotiated rate is dependent upon the level of demand for the securities.
- B.** The Security Lending agent invests the cash collateral in highly liquid, short duration, high credit quality instruments approved by our investment policy.
- C.** The earnings generated net of rebates from these transactions are split between the third party agent and the County based on the contract agreement.

Our contract with The Bank of New York requires daily reporting of the securities borrowed, the borrowers, and the short term investments made with the collateral. The County retains the right to recall securities at any given time; cutoffs are 9:30 a.m. eastern standard time for same day recalls of treasuries/agencies and 1:30 p.m. eastern standard time on trade date for corporates. We also require acknowledgement of the County Investment Policy, and check the adherence to that policy daily.

All securities purchased with any funds received as a result of such lending shall be regularly monitored and re-evaluated. Should their ratings fall below the pool's investment standards, the Treasury Oversight Committee will be notified within 10 days of any security downgrades that fall below the pool's investment standards and the course of action if any. In addition, the information will be posted on the Treasurer's website within the same time frame.